Amendments to the Claims

Claims 1-19 (Withdrawn)

20. (Currently Amended) A food package <u>for frozen food</u>, said food package comprising a top web and a bottom web wherein said top web comprises:

a first coextruded multilayer polymeric film wherein said film comprises:

a first layer, said first layer comprising a polyamide;

a second layer, said second layer comprising an adhesive, said second layer disposed in contact with said first layer;

a third layer, said third layer comprising a polyamide, said third layer disposed in contact with said second layer;

a fourth layer, said fourth layer comprising an adhesive, said fourth layer disposed in contact with said third layer;

a fifth layer, said fifth layer comprising a polyamide, said fifth layer disposed in contact with said fourth layer;

a sixth layer, said sixth layer comprising an adhesive, said sixth layer disposed in contact with said fifth layer; and

a seventh layer, said seventh layer comprising a <u>sealable</u> polymer <u>or</u>

polymers independently selected from the group consisting of low density polyethylene,
ethylene vinyl acetate copolymer, ethylene methyl acrylic acid copolymer, ethylene
methyl acrylate copolymer, ethylene acrylic acid copolymer, ionomer, linear low density
polyethylene, metallocene catalyzed polyethylene, medium density polyethylene, high
density polyethylene, ultra low density polyethylene, and very low density polyethylene,

such that the seventh layer may be sealable with the addition of heat, said seventh layer disposed in contact with said sixth layer; and

wherein said bottom web comprises a second thermoformable multilayer polymeric film, wherein said seventh layer of said first coextruded multilayer polymeric film is heat sealed to said second thermoformable multilayer polymeric film and further wherein said the second coextruded multilayer polymeric film is easily peelable from the said second thermoformable multilayer polymeric film.

- 21. (Currently Amended) The food package of claim 20 wherein the seventh layer of the first said coextruded multilayer film comprises a seal-poisoning agent to allow the seal formed between the seventh layer of the first said coextruded multilayer film and the second said thermoformable multilayer film to be easily peelable when the first said coextruded multilayer film is pulled from the second said thermoformable multilayer film.
- 22. (Currently Amended) The food package of claim 20 wherein said first, third and fifth layers of said first coextruded multilayer polymeric film comprise nylon.
- 23. (Currently Amended) The food package of claim 20 wherein said seventh layer of said first coextruded multilayer polymeric film comprises a polymer selected from the group consisting of polybutylene, polypropylene and high density polyethylene.
- 24. (Currently Amended) The food package of claim 20 wherein said seventh layer of said first coextruded multilayer polymeric film comprises a blend of polymers wherein a first polymer is selected from the group consisting of polyethylene polymer and polyethylene copolymers, low density polyethylene, ethylene vinyl acetate copolymer,

ethylene methyl acrylic acid copolymer, ethylene methyl acrylate copolymer, ethylene acrylic acid copolymer, ionomer, linear low density polyethylene, metallocene catalyzed polyethylene, medium density polyethylene, high density polyethylene, ultra low density polyethylene, and very low density polyethylene, and further wherein a second polymer is selected from the group consisting of polybutylene, polypropylene and high density polyethylene.

Claim 25 (Cancelled)

26. (Currently Amended) The food package of claim 20 wherein said second thermoformable multilayer polymeric film comprises:

a first layer, said first layer comprising a polyamide;

a second layer, said second layer comprising an adhesive, said second layer disposed in contact with said first layer;

a third layer, said third layer comprising a polyamide, said third layer disposed in contact with said second layer;

a fourth layer, said fourth layer comprising an adhesive, said fourth layer disposed in contact with said third layer;

a fifth layer, said fifth layer comprising a polyamide, said fifth layer disposed in contact with said fourth layer;

a sixth layer, said sixth layer comprising an adhesive, said sixth layer disposed in contact with said fifth layer; and

a seventh layer, said seventh layer comprising a heat sealable polymer or polymers wherein said heat sealable polymer is independently selected from the group

methyl acrylic acid copolymer, ethylene methyl acrylate copolymer, ethylene acrylic acid copolymer, ethylene methyl acrylate copolymer, ethylene acrylic acid copolymer, ionomer, linear low density polyethylene, metallocene catalyzed polyethylene, medium density polyethylene, high density polyethylene, ultra low density polyethylene, and very low density polyethylene, said seventh layer disposed in contact with said sixth layer,

wherein said multilayer polymeric film does not contain an EVOH core layer.

- 27. (Currently Amended) The food package of claim 26 wherein said seventh layer of said seventh the multilayer polymeric film comprises a polymer such that said seventh layer of said multilayer polymeric film is easily peelable from the first said coextruded multilayer polymeric film.
- 28. (Currently Amended) The food package of claim 27 wherein said seventh layer of said second thermoformable multilayer polymeric film comprises a polymer selected from the group consisting of polybutylene, polypropylene and high density polyethylene.
- 29. (Currently Amended) The food package of claim 27 wherein said seventh layer of said second thermoformable multilayer polymeric film comprises a blend of polymers wherein a first polymer is selected from the group consisting of low density polyethylene, ethylene vinyl acetate, ethylene methyl acrylic acid, ethylene methyl acrylate, ethylene acrylic acid, ionomer, linear low density polyethylene, metallocene catalyzed polyethylene, medium density polyethylene, high density polyethylene, ultra low density polyethylene, and very low density polyethylene, and further wherein a second polymer

is selected from the group consisting of polybutylene, polypropylene and high density polyethylene.

- 30. (Currently Amended) The food package of claim 20 wherein said first coextruded multilayer polymeric film does not contain an EVOH layer.
- 31. (Currently Amended) A food package, <u>for frozen food</u> said food package comprising a top web and a bottom web wherein said top web <u>comprises</u>:
 - a first coextruded multilayer polymeric film comprising:
 - a first layer, said first layer comprising a polyamide;
 - a second layer, said second layer comprising an adhesive polymer, said second layer disposed in contact with said first layer;
 - a third layer, said third layer comprising a polyamide, said third layer disposed in contact with said second layer;
- a fourth layer, said fourth layer comprising an adhesive polymer, said fourth layer disposed in contact with said third layer;
 - a fifth layer, said fifth layer comprising a polyamide, said fifth layer disposed in contact with said fourth layer;
 - a sixth layer, said sixth layer comprising an blend of an adhesive polymer and a second polymer, said sixth layer disposed in contact with said fifth layer;
- a seventh layer, said seventh layer comprising a heat sealable polymer, said seventh layer disposed in contact with said sixth layer,

and

and further wherein said sixth layer easily delaminates from said seventh

layer when said seventh layer is pulled from said sixth layer; and

a second thermoformable multilayer polymeric film, wherein said seventh layer of

said first coextruded multilayer polymeric film is heat sealed to said second

thermoformable multilayer polymeric film.

32. (Currently Amended) The multilayer polymeric film food package of claim 31

wherein the sixth layer of the first said coextruded multilayer polymeric film comprises a

seal-poisoning agent to allow the seal formed between the sixth and seventh layers of the

first said coextruded multilayer film to be easily peelable when the seventh layer is pulled

from the sixth layer.

33. (Currently Amended) The food package of claim 31 wherein the first, third and fifth

layers of said first coextruded multilayer polymeric film comprises nylon.

34. (Currently Amended) The food package of claim 31 wherein the second, fourth, and

sixth layers of said first coextruded multilayer polymeric film comprises an anhydride

modified polyethylene.

35. (Currently Amended) The food package of claim 31 wherein said seventh layer of

said first coextruded multilayer polymeric film comprises a polyethylene copolymer.

36. (Currently Amended) The food package of claim 31 wherein said seventh layer of

said first coextruded multilayer polymeric film comprises ethylene vinyl acetate

copolymer.

Page 7 of 16

CHI99 4231071-1.024180.0897

37. (Original) The food package of claim 30 wherein said second thermoformable multilayer polymeric film comprises:

a first layer, said first layer comprising a polyamide;

a second layer, said second layer comprising an adhesive, said second layer disposed in contact with said first layer;

a third layer, said third layer comprising a polyamide, said third layer disposed in contact with said second layer;

a fourth layer, said fourth layer comprising an adhesive, said fourth layer disposed in contact with said third layer;

a fifth layer, said fifth layer comprising a polyamide, said fifth layer disposed in contact with said fourth layer;

a sixth layer, said sixth layer comprising an adhesive, said sixth layer disposed in contact with said fifth layer; and

a seventh layer, said seventh layer being sealable via the application of heat, said seventh layer disposed in contact with said sixth layer,

wherein said second thermoformable multilayer polymeric film does not contain an EVOH core layer.

- 38. (Currently Amended) The food package of claim 37 wherein said first, third, and fifth layers of said second thermoformable multilayer polymeric film comprise nylon.
- 39. (Original) The food package of claim 37 wherein said second, fourth, and sixth layers comprise an anhydride modified polyethylene.

Appl. No. 10/010,138

Amdt. Dated January 14, 2004

Reply to Office Action of July 14, 2003

40. (Currently Amended) The food package of claim 30 wherein said first coextruded

multilayer polymeric film structure does not contain EVOH.

41. (New) The coextruded multilayer polymeric film of claim 20 wherein the sealable

polymer or polymers is independently selected from ethylene vinyl acetate copolymer,

ethylene methyl acrylic acid copolymer, ethylene methyl acrylate copolymer, ethylene

acrylic acid copolymer, ionomer, linear low density polyethylene, metallocene catalyzed

polyethylene, medium density polyethylene, high density polyethylene, ultra low density

polyethylene, and very low density polyethylene.

42. (New) The coextruded multilayer polymeric film of claim 41 wherein the polymer is

ethylene vinyl acetate copolymer.

43. (New) The thermoformable multilayer polymeric film of claim 26 wherein the heat

sealable polymer or polymers is independently selected from the group consisting of

ethylene vinyl acetate copolymer, ethylene methyl acrylic acid copolymer, ethylene

methyl acrylate copolymer, ethylene acrylic acid copolymer, ionomer, linear low density

polyethylene, metallocene catalyzed polyethylene, medium density polyethylene, high

density polyethylene, ultra low density polyethylene, and very low density polyethylene.

44. (New) A food package for frozen food, said food package comprising a top web and

a bottom web wherein said top web comprises:

a coextruded multilayer polymeric film wherein said film comprises:

a first layer, said first layer comprising a polyamide;

a second layer, said second layer comprising an adhesive, said second

layer disposed in contact with said first layer;

Page 9 of 16

CHI99 4231071-1.024180.0897

a third layer, said third layer comprising a polyamide, said third layer disposed in contact with said second layer;

a fourth layer, said fourth layer comprising an adhesive, said fourth layer disposed in contact with said third layer;

a fifth layer, said fifth layer comprising a polyamide, said fifth layer disposed in contact with said fourth layer;

a sixth layer, said sixth layer comprising an adhesive, said sixth layer disposed in contact with said fifth layer; and

a seventh layer, said seventh layer comprising a blend of polymers wherein the first polymer is ethylene vinyl acetate copolymer and the second polymer is polybutylene, said seventh layer disposed in contact with said sixth layer and wherein said seventh layer of said coextruded multilayer polymeric film may be sealable to a thermoformable multilayer polymeric film, and wherein the coextruded multilayer polymeric film is easily peelable from said thermoformable multilayer polymeric film.

45. (New) The food package of claim 44 wherein said thermoformable multilayer polymeric film comprises:

a first layer, said first layer comprising a polyamide;

a second layer, said second layer comprising an adhesive, said second layer disposed in contact with said first layer;

a third layer, said third layer comprising a polyamide, said third layer disposed in contact with said second layer;

Appl. No. 10/010,138

Amdt. Dated January 14, 2004

Reply to Office Action of July 14, 2003

a fourth layer, said fourth layer comprising an adhesive, said fourth layer disposed in contact with said third layer;

a fifth layer, said fifth layer comprising a polyamide, said fifth layer disposed in contact with said fourth layer;

a sixth layer, said sixth layer comprising an adhesive, said sixth layer disposed in contact with said fifth layer; and

a seventh layer, said seventh layer comprising a heat sealable polymer or polymer blend wherein said polymer blend comprises linear low density polyethylene and ethylene vinyl acetate copolymer wherein said seventh layer is disposed in contact with said sixth layer, and

wherein said thermoformable multilayer polymeric film does not contain an EVOH core layer.